

Noah Lesson 4

INTRO:

- A. The best summary of the life and character of Noah is found in **Hebrews 11:7**
 - 1. The actual account of his life we find in Genesis 6-9.
- B. As we study Noah, may we realize this is not just a children's Bible story to be read at bedtime or a child's Bible lesson in a class.
 - 1. It's mentioned in eight other books of the Bible which includes Jesus describing it as a real event.
 - 2. The challenges Noah faced living in an ungodly world remind us of our struggles.
- C. There is no mention of Noah in the Scriptures until he was somewhere around 500 years old but it seems that Noah had been dedicated to obeying God during those years as well.
- D. A brief summary of the things which led to the flood:
 - 1. Wickedness and evil was rampant. (**6:5,11**)
 - 2. God "*repented*" He had made man and was "*grieved...at His heart*". (**6**)
 - 3. His decision: (**7**)
 - 4. "*But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.*" (**8**)
 - 5. He commands Noah to "*make yourself an ark of gopherwood;...*" (**14**) and gives Noah the reason why: (**13, 17,18**)
- E. Skeptics want us to believe all those animals and provisions could not have fit into the ark.
 - 1. However, the facts prove otherwise since the average size of the animals was the same of that of a relatively big dog.
 - a. There was sufficient space for everything.
 - 2. The physical dimensions alone are amazing.
 - a. It was about 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high.
 - b. It had three decks that totaled more than 100,000 square feet of surface area, its capacity totaled about 1,500,000 cubic feet.
 - c. The ark was the size of the largest ocean going vessel ever built until the 19th century.
 - d. It was only then that there were ships built which were comparable to the size of the ark which Noah constructed.
 - e. Also take into consideration that all the work was done without the help of modern tools and equipment!
 - f. Because of **Genesis 6:3**, it is safe to say it took Noah over 100 years to build the ark.

I. Lesson #1: God Hates Sin. (Gen. 6:6)

- A. Noah lived in a society that was sinful to the core.
 - 1. People's thoughts were wicked, their hearts were corrupt, their imaginations were evil continually.
 - 2. It "*grieved*" God's heart.
 - 3. I'm not sure we appreciate this aspect of God's character.
 - a. Yes, God is love but He hates sin.
 - b. If we are to be pleasing to God, we need to love righteousness and hate wickedness like Jesus did. **Psalms 45:7**

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II. Lesson # 2: God's Patience Is Limited.

- A. He is: Longsuffering. **1 Peter 3:20; 2 Peter 3:9**
 - 1. All this indicates His forbearance and patient.
 - 2. For some 120 years Noah preached for people to repent.
- B. But there came a time when God's patience ended.
 - 1. God shut the door of the ark. **Genesis 7:16**
- C. Today, God patently waits for us to come to Him.
 - 1. But time will end and the Lord will return and the *'door will be shut.'*

III. Lesson # 3: God Demands Obedience.

- A. God told Noah to build an ark out of gopher wood.
 - 1. He gave the exact specifications.
 - 2. **(Genesis 6:22; Hebrews 11:5)**
 - 3. He build it exactly as God said; without addition, or subtraction.
- B. The lesson is simple: Faith works, faith acts, and faith obeys.
 - 1. Faith does exactly what God says. Period!

IV. Lesson # 4: God Punishes The Disobedient.

- A. Other people could have boarded the ark.- there was room!
- B. Noah preached for people to repent. - But they obviously ignored him!
- C. So, what happened to those outside the ark? - They were lost/perished!
- D. Today, God calls us to get in 'the ark of safety'/the church.
 - 1. To be a part of His called out people.
 - 2. To trust Him; to obey hHm; to serve Him.

V. Lesson # 5: God Blesses The Righteous Person.

- A. Noah found grace/favor with God. **(6:8)**
 - 1. He was a righteous man.
 - 2. He influenced his family to be godly.
 - 3. And they were rewarded.
- B. I wonder if Noah was ridiculed for his righteousness?
 - 1. If he was, there is no doubt that the reward was worth the ridicule!
- C. Whenever we see the rainbow in the sky let us remember Noah.
 - 1. Remember God's promise.
 - 2. And remember it pays to obey God.

CONCLUSION:

- A. We are responsible to build.
 - 1. Our future is what you make it.
 - 2. Living a successful life is not automatic.
 - 3. The only thing that comes automatically without any work is failure.
 - 4. It takes WORK to build our life the way God would have us to live.
- B. Understand that Noah was RESPONSIBLE to build the ark himself.
 - 1. Work like it depends on you and pray like it depends on God.
- C. God will say, *"Well done good and faithful servant"* to those who DID well and were FAITHFUL, not to those who did nothing or little and were faithless.
- D. Think about this: Why would He say *"well done"* if we weren't supposed to do anything?